

A DRAMAIN REAL LIFE—A suit has been commenced in the French courts, the incidents developed in which will set the brains of the dramatists in a whirl, and give work to their pens. The story runs thus:—
“Nearly thirty years ago, a widow lady of a noble and powerful Huguenot family, residing in the south of France, placed her

as its foster-mother and nurse. One day, as the young heir was sporting before the door and the gardener's child was lying on a bed in the cottage, the nurse heard the wheels of a carriage, and immediately suspected that the mother of her young charge was coming to see her son. In her hurry, she snatched up the heir, but slipping, let him fall upon a heap of stones, breaking his right arm and

husband, who advised her to stow away that screaming victim under the bed-clothes, and taking his garments, he placed them on his own child, and boldly stood at the door to wait the lady's coming. Contrary to the usual casual glance given by her on her previous visits, the lady mother was so struck at the change in her darling, to the lean, brown, hungry-looking babe which she beheld in the place of her own plump baby, that, vexed

the child in her arms, and bade the postillion drive away. The gardener and his wife were terribly frightened, but decided to the next day to the chateau and make an explanation. To their further consternation they found the next morning that the lady was gone, and had taken away the child. Years sped on, and the family did not return, while the ignorant cottagers, influenced by terror, never dared to stir in the matter, until the gardener's wife, on her death

bed, recently made a full confession. In the meantime, the cottager's child has passed his life as a member of one of the noblest families of France, has been attached to an embassy, and now holds a desirable official position, while the real heir has spent his youth in discipline and privation as a soldier in Algeria. The latter now brings suit to recover his property and title."

[COMMUNICATED.]

A few days ago, you gave us an extract from a book called "Things Not Generally Known," embracing a long list of "phrases and quotations" in common use. I have no doubt it would be interesting to your readers to be enlightened as to the origin and authors of the following, as much in use

author of "Things Not Generally Known," or some one else, can give us some account of their origin. I would be glad, and no doubt many others would be, to see it. "Don't kick before you're spurred." "Barking up the wrong tree." "He smeld a rat." "Come to a goat's house for wool." "He is a bird." "That's the wood with the bark or it." "That's a good egg." "Got the wrong sow by the ear." "He is some pumpkins." "Like a hen on a hot griddle." "Dead as a

Mackerel." "Straight as a fish hook." —
"Black as the Ace of Spades." "Flat as a
pan cake." "Every crow thinks her own
the whitest." "Well! did you ever!" —
"Kissing goes by favors." "Whip the Devil
round the stump." "He's gone to the dogs."
"Wake snakes, June bugs about." "Up to
snuff." "Hold your horses." And many
others of the same sort might be given, but
let us "hold on awhile." OLD FOGY.

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my 15-4f

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